

REMARKS

Applicants, at the outset, note the approval of the drawings submitted in the response to the previous Official Action.

Of the 14 claims submitted for examination in this application, one of them, independent Claim 17, has been allowed. That claim remains in the application. Of the remaining claims, three of them, Claims 6, 12 and 13, have been objected to as being dependent from an unpatentable claim. However, the subject matter of these claims are patentable. Thus, if these claims are presented in independent form, they would be in condition for allowance. The remaining claims, Claims 3-5, 7-9, 11 and 14-16, stand rejected on substantive grounds.

It is unnecessary to consider the substantive ground of rejection. Suffice it to say, this substantive ground of rejection, the sole bar to the allowance of all the claims in this application, has been made moot by the instant amendment to the claims of the present application.

The present amendment introduces the limitation of Claim 6 into independent Claim 15. As indicated above, the subject matter of Claim 6, the limitation that the regeneration gas entering the second coke-burning zone has a water content of 10 - 200 ppmv, has been indicated to be patentable over the substantive rejection of record. Therefore, the introduction of the limitation of Claim 6 into Claim 15 represents the recitation of Claim 6 in independent form. Since amended Claim 15, which represents Claim 6 in independent form, is admitted to be patentable over the rejection of record, Claims 3-5, 7-9, 11-14 and 16, which ultimately depend from Claim 15, are obviously also patentable.

Independent Claim 17 has been indicated to be allowable. Although that claim remains in the application, applicants have amended that claim to correct two minor grammatical errors contained therein. These changes are totally non-substantive and add no new matter therein.

The above amendment and remarks establish the patentable nature of all the claims currently in this application. Notice of Allowance and passage to issue of these claims, Claims 3-5, 7-9 and 11-17, is therefore respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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PATENT OFFICE DATE STAMP WILL ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF:

1. Amendment transmittal in duplicate
2. Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111
3. Cert of mailing

Applicant(s): Rendian Zhao, et al.

Serial No.09/837,788

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For: A PROCESS FOR CONTINUOUSLY
REGENERATING CATALYST PARTICLES

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